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LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Region II
Thursday, October 9, 2008, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

MEETING NOTES (Corrected)

REGION II LEPC Members present:

Nabil Al-Hadithy – Chair, Berkely CUPA
Jay Swardenski, Alternate Chair, City of Fremont Fire Dept.
Larry Yost, Agriculture, Contra Costa County Dept. of Ag.
Michael Pixton, Environmental, Ca. Dept. of Toxic and Substance Control
LeRoy Griffin, Fire, City of Oakland Fire Dept.

Others present:

OES Staff

Sandra McKenzie, OES Coastal Region
Ron Olguin, State OES Hazardous Materials Branch
George Lowry, OES Telecommunications Coordinator
John Camp, Environmental Services Division
Sonoma County OES

1. Introduction

Nabil Al-Hadithy (Nabil), the LEPC II Chair, called the Region II Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting to order at 10:00 on Thursday Sept. 9, 2008. Nabil welcomed everyone and introductions took place. There were not enough members present for a quorum. Nabil advised that committee had not met in quite some time, and how hard it is to reconvene a committee once it dies. Nabil advised on revising by-laws to reduce the member committee so that we could meet a quorum. There is now a venue to advertise the agenda on the Region II LEPC website.

2. Chairperson Report:

Nabil requested that Jay Swardenski (Jay) take over as the Committee Chair. Jay declined, as he is will to serve as "alternate", but did not feel prepared to sit on as committee chair. Nabil explained the purpose and differences of the CUPA's and the LEPCs. He advised that it was not necessary to coordinate the CSTI grants that go to the region. Their was question on the Regional plan, how it works within the Bay Area, and how it ties into the State Hazmat plan. Kathy Ivy is leading the process. USCG and DFG have personnel in using information and materials. OES area plan, it is up to first responders to conduct the initial response and the local OES supports. One of Alameda County's objectives will be to update the oil spill response plan.

3. **OES Updates:**

- AB38 was signed by the Governor on September 24, 2008. This bill merges State OES and the Office of Homeland Security into a single cabinet level agency. The State OES agency name will be change to the California Emergency Management Agency (CALEMA). Not sure how the agency will be structured, more to come.
- There are CSTI hazmat training opportunities for the LEPC Region II consisting of Hazmat Technician A-D and Technical Specialists F & G. There are up to 60 tuition grants being made available, with 15 of those to include per diem for those who live outside of a 50-mile radius from the training location.

4. **HMEP Grant Update:**

Ron Olguin (Ron) provided update on CSTI training scholarships is \$1,031,865.00 (one million, thirty-one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-five dollars). The planning grant portion is six hundred and ten thousand dollars (\$610,000.). The Region II LEPC was awarded from four applications from Alameda County Environmental Health, Contra Costa County Hazmat, Lake County Dept. of Health Services, and Humboldt County Environmental Health. Ron advised that he is the HMEP Grant administrator, and provided an overview on how he works with the various LEPCs on distribution of grant funds. Ron advised that Mike Warren, formerly with OES' Hazmat Unit, has transferred to the OES Radiological Unit. Ron will be handling the HMEP Planning grants, and Jeanine Gentis, with CSTI handles the training grants. DOT meets twice a year to advise on how the grants can be used.

Nabil emphasized his concern on how to go about writing the area plans for the LEPC Region II. He discussed possibly using the grant planning monies to hire consultants to assist with writing the area hazmat plans, and requested obtaining a list of how to write area plans. Ron Olguin advised that he is subject to Audits and that his concern with using contractors to write area plans is whether or not local governments would be getting their monies worth. Ron will obtain a list on cities who hired consultants to complete an area plan. Ron said he would work with Sandy on getting the list to the committee.

Nabil would like to focus on a railroad/railcar hazmat commodity study. There was question as to whether the railroads would cooperate. Nabil requested that the OES Director speak with the R/R in obtaining a commodity study. It was mentioned that the OES Director would not be the person who would be communicating with the R/R. The question is, what are railways willing to divulge when traveling through local communities with hazmats?

George Lowry advised that the members should reach out to the CPUC or California Transportation Commission to get assistance with obtaining commodity study from the railroad.

5. **LEPC Organization / Administration:**

Nabil asked those in attendance who could continue to sit on the committee. A board member list was circulated to those present and listed all that have agreed to continue sitting on the committee. Sandra McKenzie (McKenzie) will send nomination forms via the email to request nominations to fill vacant positions. The chair is also asking those who have agreed to remain on the committee to complete another nomination form.

6. **LEPC Region II Website:**

Sandy reported that a Region II LEPC web page has been established within the State OES web site. The web page contains information on the Region II LEPC, and lists the LEPC Chair and HMEP Grant administrator. Further information featured on the web page includes the HMEP grant guidance, contacts and training opportunities.

7. **LEPC Member Reports:**

CUPA - Jay Swardenski (Jay) reported that the cities of Oakland, Fremont and Berkeley Fire Department

Fire - LeRoy Griffin (Griffin) - provided an update on the Alameda County Oil Spill Response Plan. The plan is a compilation of plans from prior years. Kathy Ivey is updating the plan that will be completed by November '08. Fremont, Alco, Berkeley and Oakland, is included in the plan. The Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) for hazmat response is very well documented and is in alignment with all hazardous material response agencies in the county.

California Office of Emergency Services (OES) Fire and Rescue Branch started typing hazmat teams Type I and Type II. The Type I and II team designations were changed about four years ago, and are now designated as Type I, Type II and Type III. The original team-typing concept started in 1992, however; was not enforced through an inspection program until 2006. Ron advised that Trevor Anderson is a good source of information regarding the teams.

The equipment for the Type I team is hard to maintain, as there is no money available for O and M. Michael Pixton advised on how process works from DTSC standpoint. Griffin would like to develop a type I team based on responders from several cities located within the county.

Griffin advised that the SUASI was charged with HazMat Area Plan for the Bay Area. The report is available and will be emailed to OES and the LEPC Chair.

http://www.imakenews.com/bayareasuasi/e_article000926581.cfm?x=b11,0,w

DTSC - Michael Pixton (Pixton) - advised that AB38 passed which requires that the state form new committees to include oil spill response, and come up with a unified plan. We will also be required to share communications information with local government agencies. For additional items related to the bill, see attached web address:

http://info.sen.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=ab_38&sess=CUR&house=B&site=sen

DTSC will have a Technician Specialist team consisting of 30 members for rapid field identification of unknown chemicals by July '09. The team will increase to 60 by the year 2012.

Chair Report- Nabil reported that DFG has increased fee for Oil Spill Response Plans. The City of Oakland is charged with the lead to rewrite the Alameda County Plan. For updates, contact Cindy Murphy at OSPR: CMurphy@ospr.dfg.ca.gov
There are spill equipment grants available from DFG:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/ospr/misc/equip-grant.html>

8. **Proposed Agenda and Next Meeting date:**

- The next meeting will be scheduled within three months as determined by OES.
- Agenda item to include updates on above, and proposed agenda to include briefing on future CSTI training opportunities for LEPC Region II.

9. **Public Comment:**

None reported

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Administrative Actions

- Request to OES – Ron Olquin to prepare a list of consultants and agency contacts used to prepare hazmat plans.
- Request that OES Chief Renteria communicate with railroad/CHP for a commodity study to be shared with local agencies in the LEPC Region II.
- Request to LEPC members for new board members in minutes
- Request to OES to get email addresses for LEPCII Fire Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs for distribution of training opportunities.
- Send nomination forms to members and others via email.